IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Application of: Billy R. Masten Serial Number: 09/849831 Filed: 05/04/01 § § For: Digital Spectral Identifier-

Controller and Related

Methods

Group Art Dnit 2877

JUH - 3 2002

Examiner: Examiner: Examiner: Examiner: Examiner: Example 1. The control of the control of

Preliminary Amendment (37 CFR 1.115)

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Honorable Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Washington, D.C. 20231

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.115, kindly amend the claims 6, 7, 25 and 28 as shown below and add claims 41 through 53.

- 2
 - 6. (Amended). The method as recited in claim 5 in which the spectral distribution is transmitted in an analog state.
 - 7. (Amended). The method recited in Claim 6 in which the spectral distribution is first converted to digital information prior to transmitting.
 - 25. (Amended). A method for comparing selected objects, said method comprising 2 the steps of: